touching trees of the reserved kind and that he should allow the Forest and Revenue officials to see that these and other conditions are conformed to; also that the grantee be allowed to take timber required for building and fencing purposes like other raiyats; that the grantee shall have no right to cut, lop, or in any way injure the sandal trees, by clearing or burning the forest growth in their vicinity and that all trees and shrubs within a radius of 10 feet of a sandal tree or sapling shall be strictly preserved.

vi. That the Forest or Revenue Department should be allowed to cut and remove valuable timber trees which are not required for purposes of shade.

vii. That the grant shall be liable to summary resumption on failure of the grantee to comply with any of the above conditions. On this question, the decision of the Deputy Commissioner shall be final.

3. The above conditions are only tentative; and since rubber cultivation in the State is still in its experimental stage and sufficient experience has not been acquired as to the conditions most favourable to its profitable production consistently with the requirements of forest conservancy and other interests of Government, it has not been found possible to lay down any definite rules as to the exact concessions that should be granted. In the meantime and pending full investigation of the possibilities of rubber cultivation and the terms and conditions subject to which grants may be made, applications for lands on a large scale for rubber cultivation are not being granted.

4. Of the tentative conditions referred to above, that in regard to the prohibition of the felling of trees has not worked well. In one case the grantee would appear to have cut down trees, both reserved and unreserved, in contravention of the terms of the grant, and even set fire to whole areas for the purpose of clearing them for rubber planting. In another case also, the grantee has cut down all trees on the land granted to him, but has offered to pay their value to Government.

5. In granting lands for rubber cultivation the first point to be considered is what localities in the Mysore State are suited for successfully growing the different kinds of rubber. On this point, definite information is not available.

It seems desirable before large tracts of land are given out for rubber cultivation that the possibilities of the different parts of the State should be definitely ascertained and recorded.

6. Another point to be guarded against is the possibility of injury to valuable forest lands.

The expediency of retaining the condition in regard to the prohibition of the felling of trees has also to be considered. This is a difficult condition to enforce as experience abundantly shows. The full value of the trees on the tract applied for may be recovered from the applicant or the lands sold in auction subject to an upset price equivalent to the value of the trees.

7. In order to prevent speculative applications, it is necessary that there should be adequate guarantees that the applicants know something of rubber cultivation and its requirements.

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(2) Notice No. R. 147, dated the 5th July 1906, inviting all persons interested in rubber cultivation and also all intending applicants for lands for such cultivation, to be present at a Conference proposed to be held at the Public Offices at Bangalore on the 16th August 1906, in order to enable the Government of His Highness the Maharaja to hear at first hand any representations which they may wish to make and on the other hand to give the latter an opportunity of learning the views held by Government in the matter of the terms and conditions relative to the grant of lands for rubber cultivation in Mysore.

(3) Proceedings of the Conference held at the Public Offices at Bangalore on the 16th August 1906.

No. R. 3474-84—L. R. 226-06-1, DATED BANGALORE, 28TH SEPTEMBER 1906.

ORDER THEREON.—After careful consideration of the question of the grant of land for rubber cultivation in all its aspects, and having due regard to the results of the experience, as far as available, gained during recent years both in Mysore and elsewhere, and also to the

representations of gentlemen interested in the industry, who were good enough to place their views before Government at the Conference held on the 16th August 1906, the Government of His Highness the Maharaja are now in a position to announce the conditions on which they will entertain applications for rubber cultivation in the State.

2. It should be premised that these conditions are tentative and intended primarily for the benefit of local applicants, whether natives of the country or planters who have already settled there. Local planters are in the opinion of Government entitled to preferential treatment over others, inasmuch as they already own or manage estates in the State and the Government recognize that the coffee planting industry has been beneficial to the State in the past, though it has been declining in recent years, and has proved unprofitable to several of the planters. The concessions which the Government are prepared to offer to such applicants cannot therefore be extended to applicants from outside, in regard to whom the Government reserve to themselves the liberty to fix such terms as they may consider most advantageous in each case. On the other hand, even to resident planters the benefit of the concessions cannot be indefinitely continued without prejudice to public interests and accordingly they will only be in force for the next two years and will be withdrawn in the case of applications received after the 30th June 1908. It should at the same time be distinctly understood that Government will not permit the concessions in question to be enjoyed by other than *bona fide* applicants about whose intention and ability to carry on rubber cultivation to good purpose the Government feel a reasonable degree of assurance, or to be alienated by grantees before the issue of final title-deeds.

3. In the case, then, of applicants to whom this order applies, the Government will be prepared to grant land not exceeding a maximum of 500 acres in any instance, free of assessment for the first five years from the date of the grant, and at an assessment of Rs. 3 per acre on all land included in the grant from and after the sixth year.

4. No upset price will be demanded till the expiry of the first five years, when an upset price of Rs. 10 per acre will be recovered; and the payment of the same will, for the benefit of persons who desire it, be spread over a period not exceeding five years.

5. The only condition that will be insisted on in the selection of land is that it should not be one which, for the protection of springs or for the preservation of the hill sides or other well marked natural features or on account of its containing valuable timber, or being evergreen forest of the kind known as "Kan," it is considered necessary to reserve to Government. To enable this condition to be enforced, all applications for land should be referred by the Revenue authorities to the Forest Department for investigation and opinion before recommendations are made to Government. If the block applied for adjoins a perennial stream or river, and it is not considered necessary to reserve the whole land, a belt fifty yards in width should be invariably reserved on either bank.

6. For the benefit of intending applicants and in order to avoid delay in the disposal of such applications, the Conservator will cause the Forest lands in the Malnad tracts of the State to be inspected and draw up as soon as possible a list of the lands which may be given out for rubber cultivation without prejudice to the interests mentioned in the previous paragraph.

7. To allow proper facilities for the clearing of land without depriving the Government of the value of the timber in them, Government direct that, after a land is made over to the applicant for rubber cultivation, he should give notice to the Forest Department, in the month of September of each year, of the extent and situation of the area that he intends to clear and plant in the succeeding year. The Forest Department will arrange to cut and remove, within six months of the receipt of the notice, all timber on the area likely to be cleared by him. Each succeeding year a similar notice should be given of the area intended to be operated upon in the year following to enable the Forest Department to remove timber on such area.

8. The Forest Department will not enforce its claims to any timber remaining uncut, after the expiry of the period of six months from the receipt of notice in each year, on the area in regard to which notice has been given by the applicant. And excepting only sandal, which should be scrupulously preserved, the applicant will be free to cut such trees, whether reserved or unreserved, on such area. Forest, Police and Revenue officers will have free access to the plantations in order to enable them to attend to the conservancy and extraction of sandal.

9. After the full upset price of Rs. 10 per acre shall have been recovered, a title-deed in Form A annexed to the Rules contained in Appendix E to the Land Revenue Rules of 1890, will be issued. Until receipt of the title-deed, no grantee will have the power of alienating any portion of the land granted. Alienations made in contravention of these rules will render the grant liable to be withdrawn.